Royal Straight Flush!!
Flush!
Straight!

Royal Straight Flush!
Flush!
Straight!

Beast of the Tower [illegible] 005

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Beast of the Tower Afterword 087

BEAST OF THE TOWER

HIROKI KUSUMOTO
presents

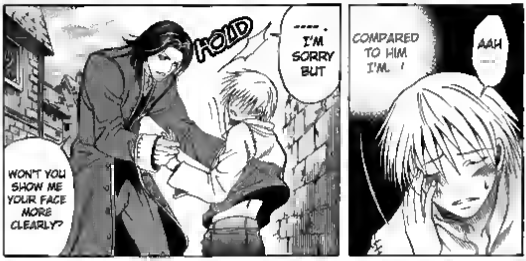
BEAST OF THE TOWER
Chapter 1

GET OUT OF HERE!
ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE MY DECENT PAYING-CUSTOMERS SICK?!
-----AAH... I'M HUNGRY...
...THEN, WOULD YOU...
AT LEAST LET ME TRADE THESE FOR SOME FOOD PLEASE?
---TCH. CAN'T BE HELPED
...I'M SO HUNGRY
NOW HURRY UP AND GET OUT OF MY SIGHT!
HERE!
I COULD DIE

Clatter
Clatter
Clatter
Clatter
Clatter
Clatter
AND TAKE THESE FILTHY SHOES AND THROW THEM INTO THE DOBU RIVER, WON'T YOU!
Clatter
Clatter
Clatter
Clatter
Clatter

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
WELL THEN, ALL'S WELL!
A... NOBLE-MAN!!
YE. YES
PLOP

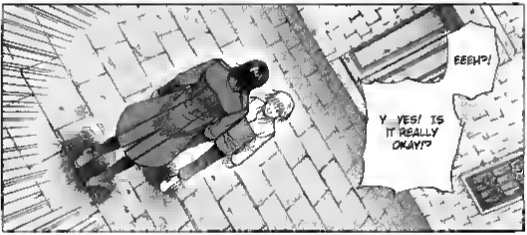
AND ONE WITH A BEAUTIFUL FACE TOO


HOLD
WON'T YOU SHOW ME YOUR FACE MORE CLEARLY?
---- . I'M SORRY BUT
COMPARED TO HIM I'M. !
AAH

I'M ASHAMED...!
N... NO, I...!

YOUR EMERALD EYES
ARE JUST LIKE MY MOTHER'S
HEHE... JUST AS I THOUGHT

I'M EDGAR
LUKKA
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
THEY REALLY BRING ME BACK...
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE HURTING FOR A MEAL AND I GROW WEARY OF SOLITUDE,
IF YOU HAVE NO WHERE ELSE TO GO, WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO JOIN ME AT MY HOME?


EEEH?!
Y...YES! IS IT REALLY OKAY!?

MAYBE HAVING YOU WITH ME WILL HELP US BOTH
I'M LONELY TOO...

SOLITUDE?
OH!
THIS IS SOLITUDE??
YES, MY LORD
THAT WILL BE FINE, JUST BRING HIM THE SAME AS YOU BRING FOR ME
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU WON'T LOOK AT ME IN THE EYES AND YOU HAVEN'T TOUCHED THE FOOD YET
... IS THIS REALLY JUST AN INVITATION TO DINNER. ?
NO... I JUST THOUGHT THAT MAYBE
SOMEONE AS POOR AND FILTHY AS ME SHOULD WAIT UNTIL YOU START
I THOUGHT MAYBE I'D FOUND A JOB AT LAST
?

I'M SO SORRY
I DO LOOK LIKE I'VE GOT SOME KIND OF DISEASE, DON'T I...
I GUESS THIS LIFE-STYLE REALLY IS TOO GOOD FOR ME---
---I GUESS SO
DON'T SAY SUCH FOOLISH THINGS.

LUKKA, YOU'RE
IN SHORT
I DIDN'T JUST TAKE YOU IN ON A WHIM
---WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SUCH A THING!?

I SAY, YOU DON'T I?
THAT I WAS LONELY.
WHAT A MYSTER-OUS PERSON...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
I HAD HOPED THAT YOU WOULD BECOME MY "FRIEND" & LIVE HERE WITH ME FOREVER
EDGAR!!

EDGAR HASN'T EVEN ASSIGNED ANY KIND OF JOB TO ME---
---FOR THE MOST PART, HE JUST TREATS ME AS IF I'M HIS OWN LITTLE BROTHER
EDGAR!
HM?
ARE YOU SURE THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO HELP?
IT'S ENOUGH JUST TO HAVE YOU HERE WITH ME, SOMEONE TO TALK TO
BUT, JUST THAT? WITHOUT ANYTHING TO PAY YOU BACK?
HMMM

YES!
I WANT TO DO WHATEVER I CAN TO MAKE MYSELF USEFUL TO YOU, EDGAR!
YOU WANT A JOB?
...
IS THAT SO
WELL, THERE IS ONE THING...
SOMETHING I'VE WANTED TO ASK YOU
DOWN
WHAT SAD EYES...!
---I
HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN HIS WORDS BACK THEN
.....I GROW WEARY OF MY SOLITUDE.....

ONCE A MONTH FOR 3 DAYS I LEAVE THIS ESTATE
DURING THOSE 3 DAYS I WANT YOU TO GO THE TOWER AND CARE FOR THE ANIMAL I HAVE THERE

AN ANIMAL?
YES, NORMALLY I WOULD CARE FOR IT MYSELF IT'S KIND OF ---- A PET

I ASK YOU TO PERFORM THIS TASK AT NIGHT
DURING THE DAY YOU MUST, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES GO NEAR HIM
ONLY AFTER THE MOON RISES ARE YOU TO BRING FOOD FOR HIM IN MY STEAD

!
YOU MUSTN'T TELL ANYONE ELSE ABOUT THIS ANIMAL
IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT NO ONE FINDS OUT ABOUT HIM
LUKKA
...

THIS IS A SECRET BETWEEN YOU AND I

---- INSIDE THE TOWER
THERE WAS A JET-BLACK BEAST ----
BLACK FUR WITH A SAP-PHIRE SHEEN
AND SAP-PHIRE EYES
AMAZING.. !! SUCH A BEAST EXISTS IN THE WORLD?
GOKU

AND EDGAR DOESN'T SHOW HIM TO ANYONE NOW I CAN
UNDER-STAND WHY HE'D WANT TO KEEP SUCH A THING ALL TO HIMSELF
HOW INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL...'
gnaw gnaw...
NOTHING COULD HAVE GOTTEN IN...
IT'S ALSO BEEN LOCKED FROM THE INSIDE
AND I'VE BEEN IN THIS TOWER BEFORE IN THE DAYTIME TOO
BUT WHY DID HE SHOW THE BEAST TO ME?

THANKS SO MUCH
ALRIGHT!
LIA, BEGGAR
WELL, YOU KNOW THE ROUTINE
PLEASE LOOK AFTER HIM FOR ME
---? WHAT FOR?
--- SEVERAL MONTHS LATER
FOR SHOWING THE BEAST TO ME..
I
... LUKKA
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM?

UM...
I... THINK HE'S REALLY A BEAUTIFUL ANIMAL.
—BEAUTIFUL?
YOU'RE REALLY SOME-THING AREN'T YOU?
CALLING SOME-THING LIKE THAT BEAUTI-FUL...
...EH?
THE ONLY FEELING I HAVE TOWARD THAT UGLY BEAST...
IS THE DESIRE TO KILL IT
shock
...!!

EDGAR ?
... EVEN THOUGH HE SMILED AFTER HE SAID IT
..... HMM. ... JUST PLAYING
HE SAID HE WAS "UGLY" .....
HOTSU
TO SAY THAT ABOUT SOMETHING SO PRETTY
--- THEN WHY IS HE KEEPING HIM HERE IN SECRET?
AAAH... I WANT TO TOUCH HIS FUR...

YOUR EYES LOOK A LOT LIKE EDGAR'S...
EDGAR
dokun
A MONSTER WITH THE SAME EYES AS EDGAR...!
dokun
dokun
clunk
AAAH...!!
I WANT TO TOUCH HIM. I WANT TO GET CLOSER...!
CREAAK

!!
grrrrrrr...
SWOOO
AH...
grrrrrrr...
!!
OH NO!!

THAT NOISE... IS IT COMING FROM THE BARN!?
SHIT!
myaaa

A GUN-SHOT ...?
NO WAY !
!!
slaaaash
slaaaash
WHAT IS IT!? I HEARD A SHOT
ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?
UUH. I... IT GOT ME. !
splurt
drip
EVERYONE COME AND LOOK!
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? A "BLACK BEAST ATTACKED YOU!?!
IT'S THE BEAST'S BLOOD!
IF WE
FOLLOW THE TRAIL...

EDGAR'S COME BACK!!
M, MY LORD!!
...WHAT DO I DO?
WHAT SHOULD I SAY
...EDGAR!?
Aaa
Aaa...
DON'T MAKE A FUSS...! GET AWAY FROM ME!!
MY LORD, HOW ON EARTH DID YOU COME BY THOSE WOUNDS...?
LUKKA... HELP ME TO MY ROOM.

THESE WOUNDS WILL SOON HEAL...
haa
haa
I'LL CALL A DOCTOR !
DON'T NEED ONE
...
HE'S RIGHT
IT'S HEALING BEFORE MY EYES...!
suu...
LUKKA...!
WHY
WHY DID YOU UNLOCK THE CAGE...!?
...H...
HOW DID YOU KNOW?

THE LORD IS RESTING..!!
STOP IT PLEASE!!
stomp stomp
GET OUT OF OUR WAY!
AAH
WHAT'S ALL THIS
slamp
HAND OVER THE MONSTER!!
WE KNOW THAT IT'S RUIN HERE TO THIS ESTATE!!
HEAR US OUT! PLEASE HEAR US OUT TODAY!!
WE HAVE TO BE HEARD!!
THAT MONSTER KILLED OUR LIVESTOCK AND GOT ONE OF OUR MEN!!
...A MAN
HE WAS ATTACKED ?

YANK
WHERE ARE YOU HIDING IT!?
UGH...
THAT'S RIGHT! AND NOW WE'RE CHASING DOWN THAT MONSTER!!
YOU'RE HIDING HIM IN THAT TOWER OF YOURS, AREN'T YOU!?
PLEASE STOP IT!! EDGAR IS INJURED!
TCH
WE'RE GOING TO COMB THESE GROUNDS!
AND WHEN WE FIND THAT THING, WE'RE GOING TO KILL IT!!

LUKKA.
EDGAR ?
IS YOUR LOYALTY TO ME TRUE. ?
NO MATTER HOW THEY SEARCH, THEY WON'T FIND HIM...
...IT'S NO GOOD
SLAM

YES.
...
...THEN IT'S
REALLY NOT HERE... WHERE COULD IT HAVE GONE, I WONDER...
!?
DOKU
LUKKA, COME WITH ME
I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU THE TRUTH
creak

---ON DAYS WITH A FULL MOON
ABOUT 3 DAYS EVERY MONTH, I SUFFER THIS AFFLICTION NATURALLY BUT
IF I'M WORKED INTO A STATE OF EXTREME EXCITEMENT THE AFFECT IS MORE OR LESS THE SAME
EDGAR !? WHAT ARE YOU.
!!
CLANK
NN...

LUKKA
YE... S...?
THE REASON FOR THIS SUFFERING IS BECAUSE YOU OPENED THE CAGE
...IT'S ONLY FAIR, ISN'T IT?
NN...
LIU...
GU
WH WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS...?
BECAUSE
I WANT TO SHOW YOU MY OTHER FORM...!

EDGAR
AH..
...!! UU...
...
...IT HURTS
ZIWIZIWI
AH... AAAH..
shake
shake
UU... AAAH...
EDGA...
AH...
AH...
AH...
AH...
yeah..

!!
baa
LU... KKA ...!!
HURRY AND RUN... AWAY...
Lun Lun
doku
LU...
HURRY...
GU..UU... UU..... UUUUGH...
BOGAN!!
bak
bak
RUN... NOW...!!

gaaaaaaa
gokii
EDGAR!!
grow...!!!
EDGAR ----!!
...LU... KKA...!!
bikuun
HUGGG...
EDGAR!!
WHY WON'T YOU RUN FROM ME...!?
EDGAR!?
ah..
bikuun
ah..
bikuun

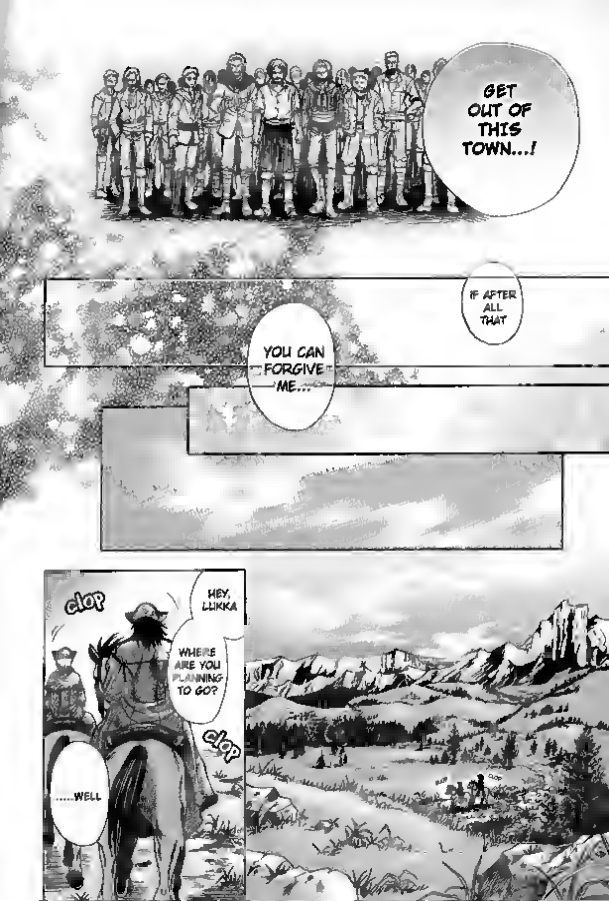
AH... UU
U U... UUUUU...
b'kun
b'kun
IT CAN'T BE, EDGAR...
HAAA
HAAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
EDGAR WAS THAT BEAST ALL ALONG !!

I ATTACKED A MAN... I MAY HAVE KILLED HIM.....!
WHAT...
SHOULD I DO NOW...
BECAUSE I DIDN'T DO WHAT EDGAR TOLD ME TO
THIS IS MY FAULT...!
I CAN'T CONTROL THE BEAST...!
BECAUSE I DIDN'T DO WHAT I WAS TOLD HE WAS HURT
EDGAR--...
AND I HAVE NO MEMORY OF THE TIME AS A BEAST...!!

THIS TIME..
I'M...
GOING TO PROTECT YOU, EDGAR
I PROMISE I'LL PROTECT YOU...
LUKKA...

GACHA.
!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
WHY ON EARTH HAVE YOU CALLED US HERE!?
ZAWA
... SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT
I'VE SHOT THE BEAST
... PROOF ...!
GIVE US THE PROOF!!
PLEASE BRING IT HERE
YES!

MURMUR
MURMUR
IT'S HUGE!
THAT'S THE ONE THAT GOT OUR MAN. IT HAS TO BE!
fwoooo...
!!
THIS BEAST..
THIS BEAST WAS MY LORD'S PET
AND BECAUSE I OPENED THE CAGE...
THE PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE SUFFERED AT IT'S CLAWS
GET OUT...


GET OUT OF THIS TOWN...!
IF AFTER ALL THAT
YOU CAN FORGIVE ME...
clop
HEY, LLIKKA
WHERE ARE YOU PLANNING TO GO?
clop
.....WELL

I HAVEN'T DECIDED YET!
IT'S ALRIGHT
WHEREVER WE END UP, I'LL ALWAYS PROTECT YOU, EDGAR
WHAT IF...
IF I... WERE TO ATTACK YOU, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

BACK THEN
FROM THE FIRST TIME I CALLED YOUR NAME
I'LL JUST KEEP CALLING YOUR NAME
I'M NOT JOKING HERE.!
I WON'T LET YOU!
!!
YOU COULD HEAR MY VOICE, COULDN'T YOU?
YEAH
"EDGAR"
AND THAT WILL REACH THROUGH THE LONELINESS
IF ONLY I JUST KEEP ON CALLING YOUR NAME
END

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60年ごとに訪れる厄災の年。
七つの村が"厄の年"を迎えた。
一人きりで生きてきた、年若き"厄祓い"ヒルコは、
人に関わる気などなかったはずの自分に、戸惑いを覚えていた。
「名前を教えろ」
見かけによらず強引な男、ヒルコ。
エトロフに残した、ある約束の記憶を揺さぶられたルリカは
ヒルコに名前を教えてしまうことになり……
孤高の"厄祓い"ヒルコと、
読み応え大長編物語ここスタート！

読みきり満載

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カバーデザイン／清水香苗（ビブロデザイン）

楠本弘樹
HIROKI KUSUMOTO

デビュー作&初単行本です
今後ともども宜しくお願いいたします

『もしかして　エビガーモ　…？』
『え、え、!!　でも、!!』
ガチャ…
ムチ打たれてたって？
あぁ　あまな
コポポ…
ごよっ
!?
趣味たよ
趣味!!
!!
俺…マゾなんだ。
ばばーん
『男人は
こんなにキリリ…
鏡で
やっぱりマゾだ!!!
男人は
マゾなのか!?
しゃかり君もどうだい？
しゃかりー

ルイ 赤ん自ね

まままま
みんさん
仲良くしてくださいね☆
きゃるーん

うふふ
俺にまかせてんや
こは
さささ

カミッ

母さん…

完

ルカアアア

DOKI DOKI

fic fusion net